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LARRY V. I HELISMAN, Mayor Conneille on Section 1997

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City Attorney

CITY OF ALBERTVILLE, ALABAMA

June 4, 2002

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Esq. Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Albertville to set forth our support of Southern LINC in connection with the above-referenced proceeding. City of Albertville provides public safety and general City services in Albertville, Al. In providing that service, we utilize Southern LINC's digital wireless communications network.

Our understanding is that in the above-referenced proceeding, the Commission is reviewing the causes of, and possible solutions for, interference to public safety entities in the 800 MHz band. Southern's network operates in the 800 MHz band, and it is concerned that the Commission might realign the band such that its spectrum holdings, and thus its network, could be compromised. To avoid that, Southern has proposed a plan that would resolve interference to public safety entities but would not compromise Southern's system (or any other 800 MHz users' systems).

City of Albertville understands and strongly supports the communications needs of public safety entities that have their own private wireless communications systems in the 800 MHz band. We understand the desire of such entities to avoid harmful interference to their systems. The Federal Communications Commission should, to the extent necessary, take steps to alleviate such interference.

For its part, City of Albertville utilizes Southern LINC for wireless communications. Unlike most other commercial providers, Southern LINC provides

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combined dispatch and interconnected service in the same handset, a feature that City of Albertville considers highly important. Also important is that Southern LINC's network comprehensively covers our jurisdiction and that its service is highly reliable and of high quality. City of Albertville relies on Southern LINC for important public safety communications. We could not tolerate its service being shut-off, interrupted, or otherwise compromised.

City of Albertville has not studied all the particular interference resolution proposals that have been submitted to the Commission and does not have an opinion as to which plan the Commission should adopt. However, City of Albertville strongly supports the continued vitality of Southern LINC, and for that reason we urge the Commission not to adopt a plan that would compromise Southern LINC's network. Southern LINC is a strong supporter and ally of the public safety community, and its ability to continue to provide wireless communications to public safety entities must not be jeopardized.

Thank you for considering our position on this matter.

11.

Gary Nunnally, Purchasing Director

cc: Thomas J. Sugrue, Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Mr. Michael J. Wilhelm, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau